

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated, claims 1 and 3 have been amended. Claims 11-13 have been canceled.

Amendments to the Drawings

Please replace the drawings shown in the Appendix. Figure 3 has been amended to correctly indicate the dividers element as 9 in the drawings. Figure 4 has been amended to indicate the plastic layer. Figure 1 has been amended to show that the two dispensing devices can adapted to dispense different sized vases as described on page 5, lines 3-11 of the specification by illustrating different sized vases.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bartfield et al. in view of Wittern et al. Claims 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bartfield et al. in view of Wittern et al and further in view of Gersten et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

There is no teaching or suggestion found in the cited references, alone or in combination, that meet the limitations of the independent claims. First, the independent claims require that flower vases of a plurality of different series of vases dispensed in the claims. Flower vases have unique problems for dispensing since flowers bouquets have different sizes and require different sized shapes for vases. As stated, the different series may be of different sizes. Nowhere in the prior art is it indicated the fact that the dispensing device that cups of different sizes exist or the capability of the dispensing machine dispensing different sized cups using two dispensing devices. The examiner has indicated that it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to dispense devices of different sizes. However, no where in the references is it suggested that different sized series of cups could be dispensed by a single dispensing assembly.


Since Wallach fails to disclose all of the elements of independent Claim 1, it also fails to disclose the elements of their corresponding dependent claims 2 and 3. Thus the applicant respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) rejections to claims 1-3.

Conclusion

Applicants have complied with all requirements made in the above referenced communication. Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, and therefore, respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Should matters remain, which the Examiner believes could be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone the Applicants' undersigned agent.

Any additional fees required in connection with this communication which are not specifically provided for herewith are authorized to be charged to the Deposit Account No. 50-2638 in the name of Greenberg Traurig LLP. Any overpayments are also authorized to be credited to this account.

Respectfully submitted,



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